

Appl. No. 09/895,527
Amdt. Dated August 4, 2005
Reply to Office action of May 4, 2005
Attorney Docket No. P13735-US2
EUS/J/P/05-1201

Amendments to the Specification:

- 1.) Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

From this experiment set it can be concluded that the percentage of instability in Internet route changes should be kept as small as possible. Static routing can always ~~fulfil~~ fulfill this requirement. Regarding dynamic routing, it has been shown in various papers, [e.g., LaAh99], that the instability in Internet routes within the region of one Internet Service Provider (ISP) is very small, since no daily or weekly instability frequency components could be observed.

- 2.) Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Requirement_1: In each router, Diffserv domain border and intermediate, the possibility of packet forwarding has to be supported. In most router implementations, this can be achieved by using a forwarding cache and by activating (setting to ON) the optional parameter "ip_forwarding" that is used in the operation system kernel of each router (~~see [Stev97]~~ (see [Stev97])). The "ip_forwarding" option (see [Stev97]) is applied to ensure that the IP packets passing a router will be forwarded.

- 3.) Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 5 is a flow diagram for handling Expedited Forwarding (EF) data traffic which arrives at the ingress border router. In step A1a, there is recognition of an EF packet with firm jitter requirements. In step A1b a determination is made whether the ingress border router has a forwarding cache entry for the IP packet destination address. If affirmative, the process leads to step A5 which finds out if the T_update period has expired. If A5 is negative, the process proceeds to step A4. If A1b is

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negative, the shortest and fastest path to an egress border router which is best matching with the IP packet destination address is extracted by using special filters in step A1c. ~~Following~~ Following this, in step A2, a list of router addresses is inserted to identify the selected path found in step A2 ~~A1c~~ in the strict source route option. In step A3, the next hop IP address for the particular destination address is stored in its forwarding cache. In the final step A4, all subsequent packets to the same IP destination address are forwarded to the next hop IP address stored in its forwarding cache. Steps A1, A2 and A3 do not apply for these packets.

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